Alleged violence by Army jawans near Bikaner

773. DR. N\RREDDY THULASI REDDY:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :
SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI :
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) wheher Government's attention nas been drawn to the newo-item wh'ch appeared in the Hindustan Times', of 6th July, 1989 to the effect that a large number of At my Jawans based in Bikaner, aim 2d with iron rods and lathis, went on a rampage at the Lalgarii railway station, near Bikaner and brutally beat up the Railway staff aid passengers and snatched two rifbs and 40 cartridges from the railway police on the 5th July, 1989 :

(b) if so, the details thereof :

(c) whether any inquiry has since been made in this regard : if so, the details thereof : and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES TN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) to (d) There was an altercation on 4-7-1989 between some Army Jawans scheduled to leave by train No. 340 (Bikaner—Ambala Passenger) and some civ'lians/Railway Staff at tne Lalgarh Railway Station, in Bikaner, Rajasthan.

A court of Inqury bas been ordered by the Army authoiit'es, to look into the incident. Rajastiian Govt, have also asked tne Commissioner-cum-Home Secretary to inquire into he maf ter. Full facts would be known when reports of these inquiries become available.

Foreign components in 'Agni' Missile.

774. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA ; Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is th? percentage *pf* foreign components used n tho production of 'AGNI' missile :

(b) whether the USA or West Germany has protested aganst its indigenous production thereof : and

. (c) what ᶜteps Gov-rnment have taken to combat this piopaganda agai rist India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLTES ᵀN IHE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAᵀ1HA) : (a) The foreign components used for AGNI are esimated at le^s than 10 % of the cost of the systecj.

(b) and (c) No, Sir : however the Governm-nt is aware of inferences tflat Ind'an Scientists acquired the technical knowhow for AGNI through taeir association with US Scientific Inttitutions or tnrough import of W.^st G;iman technology. These allegations are false. Tne West German Government is also reported to have denied that their technology was used to "develop tne AGNI System. Tne-' Indian missile development piogramme is based on indigenous efforts. Government has publicly clarified .this matter.

Re-constitution of Telecommunication regions

775. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tele-communication regions ln the country were reconstituted during May, 1989; and

(b) if so what were the main reasons therefor the extent to which greater autonomy has been provided to those regions and to what extent it has increased the efficiency of the telecom system?

* THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir. However, the General Ma-»ager Maintenance has been redesignated as Chief General Manager (Maintenance).

(b) The General Managers •f Telecom. Circles were redesignated as Chief General Managers. To have uniformity, the General Manager (Maintenance) have also been redesignated as Chief General Managers (Maintenance).

Continuation of the Missile Plan

776. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to continue the missile flan

(b) whether India have made it clear to other nations that it will •ot give up its indigenous missile development programme; and

(c) if so, what are the main faatures of the proposed plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, the Prime Minister has stated publicly on 22 May 89 that th? Agni demonstration "is a reflection of our commitment to the indigenous development of advanced technologies for the defence of the nation."

(c) Department of Defence Research and Development has undertaken the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP). Under this programme, work on four missile systems is being progressed. These are short range surface-to-air missile (TRISHUL), medium range surface-to-air missile (AKASH), surface-to-surface missile (PRITHVI) and the third generation anti-tank missile (NAG).

In addition to these, a number of competence build up and technology demonstration programmes related to guidance, closed loop control and re-entry structures (AGNI) have also been taken up.

Defence co-operation between India and the U.S.A.

777. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHPJ RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:
SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU:

Will the Minister of DIFENCI be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome 'of the recent visit of the Minister of Defence to the United States;

(b) what is the stat* of cooperation on defence between India and the United States and whether any steps are being taken to step it up and to have more contacts between our Defence Ministry and the Pentagon;

(c) what progress has been or is proposed in relation to transfer of sophisticated technology; and